

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Serial Number: 10/802,663
Filing Date: March 17, 2004
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO FLUSH AN RO SYSTEM

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a membrane module having; an inlet connected to a feed line, the membrane module having a concentrate outlet coupled to a concentrate line, and the membrane module having a permeate outlet coupled to a permeate line, the permeate line communicating with a faucet; and
a flush reservoir communicatively coupled between the permeate line and the feed line;
wherein the system is configured such that permeate does not enter the flush reservoir while the faucet is turned on, and permeate does not enter the flush reservoir until after the faucet is turned off, when a portion of permeate is delivered to the reservoir and then delivered to the inlet of the module to flush the module;

an automatic shut-off valve coupled between the permeate line and the feed line and operative to open and close the feed line;

a first check valve between the permeate line and the flush reservoir; and

a second check valve between the flush reservoir and the feed line, wherein the automatic shut-off valve closes the feed line in response to a build up of pressure differential across the shut off valve first pressure, the check valve between the permeate line and the flush reservoir opens in response to a pressure buildup within the permeate line second pressure, and the check valve between the reservoir and the feed line opens in response to a reservoir pressure being greater than the feed line third pressure, ~~the first pressure less than the other pressures, and the second pressure less than the third pressure.~~

9-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the reservoir has a volume of about 1 liter or less.

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18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the feed inlet delivers feed water to the module at about 75 psi or less.
19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the control includes a non-electric automatic shut-off valve.
20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the feed line delivers water from a feed source at home water pressure conditions.